

Orosz
10/812,193

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A tile protector platform assembly ~~An apparatus for enabling a user to walk on a floor having freshly laid tile thereon, the tile having gaps therein between for receiving grout, comprising:~~

a) a horizontal floor surface;

b) freshly laid floor tiles on said floor surface, said floor tiles having spaces therebetween for receiving grout;

c) a) a horizontal platform above and spaced from said tiles upon which a user can walk, said platform having upper and lower surfaces, said platform having a plurality of apertures therein; and;

d) b) said platform comprising a plurality of flat members each having a distributed pattern of spaced apertures downwardly extending posts being disposed in said apertures on said lower surface of said platform to enable said platform to be suspended on said posts above the tile, said posts having first and second ends, said second ends of said posts being disposed contiguous to said platform to permit the first end of the posts to be disposed in the gaps between the tile. ;

e) said apertures being threaded;

f) a plurality of threaded, downwardly extending posts threaded through selected apertures located above said spaces whereby bottom ends of said posts rest for support on said floor surface between said tiles; and

g) said flat members being distributed and spaced above said tiles whereby a user can walk on said flat members while not disturbing said tiles and are easily removed allowing grouting to be applied to said spaces.

2-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The tile protector platform assembly apparatus of Claim 1 ~~[[5]]~~, wherein each said member platform is rectangular shaped.

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7. (currently amended) The tile protector platform assembly apparatus of Claim 6, wherein said posts are disposed on the corners of said rectangular shaped members platform.

8. (currently amended) The tile protector platform assembly apparatus of Claim 7, further comprising a non-slip material being disposed on said upper surfaces surface of said members platform.

9. (currently amended) A tile protector platform combination An apparatus for enabling a user to walk on a floor having freshly laid tile thereon, the tile having gaps therein between for receiving grout, comprising:

a) a horizontal floor surface;

b) freshly laid floor tiles on said floor surface, said floor tiles having spaces therebetween for receiving grout;

c) a horizontal platform above and spaced from said tiles upon which a user can walk, said platform having upper and lower surfaces; and,

d) said platform comprising a plurality of flat members; and

e) b) a plurality of pre-punched tabs being disposed on said members platform, a selected number of wherein said tabs being can be bent downwardly so as to extend away from said lower surfaces surface of said members platform and rest on said floor surface between said tiles to enable a user to walk on said platform without disturbing said tiles to be suspended on said tabs above the tile, said tabs having first and second ends, said second ends of said tabs being disposed on said platform to permit the first end of the tabs to be positioned in the gaps between the tile.

10-11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 2 [[11]], wherein said members are platform is rectangular shaped.

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13. (currently amended) The tile protector platform combination apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said tabs are disposed on the corners of said rectangular shaped members platform.

14. (currently amended) The tile protector platform combination apparatus of Claim 13, further comprising a non-slip material being disposed on said upper surfaces surface of said members platform.